

Statement-I

Financial Performance under Major Rural Development Programmes during 1995-96 & 1996-97 – Andhra Pradesh

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl. No.	Programmes	1995-96		1996-97	
		Total Allo- cation	Expendi- ture (Prov.)	Total Allo- cation	Expendi- ture (Prov.)
1.	I.R.D.P.	8336.41	8624.01	8336.41	12810.19
2.	J.R.Y. (1st Stream)	34118.65	31705.69	17372.39	17488.47
	(2nd Stream)	3113.75	2851.21	-	-
3.	E.A.S. #	18187.50	12249.54	25137.50	25509.86

Total Released, as no Statewise allocations are made under EAS.

Statement-II

Financial Performance under Major Rural Development Programmes during 1995-96 & 1996-97 – Assam

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl. No.	Programmes	1995-96		1996-97	
		Total Allo- cation	Expendi- ture (Prov.)	Total Allo- cation	Expendi- ture (Prov.)
1.	I.R.D.P.	2743.50	3409.02	2743.50	1600.68 (Feb. 97)
2.	J.R.Y. (1st Stream)	10820.18	9583.33	5718.18	4543.21
3.	E.A.S.	10025.00	9822.98	13525.00	8790.06

EAS : Funds Released; as no Statewise allocations are made under EAS.

Statement-III

Financial Performance under Major Rural Development Programmes during 1995-96 & 1996-97 – West Bengal

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl. No.	Programmes	1995-96		1996-97	
		Total Allo- cation	Expendi- ture (Prov.)	Total Allo- cation	Expendi- ture (Prov.)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	I.R.D.P.	7472.2	6693.99	7472.20	5474.89

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	J.R.Y.				
	(1st Stream)	29455.21	26114.49	15569.34	12834.05
	(2nd Stream)	3832.50	4378.31	-	-
3.	E.A.S.	11550.00	9929.18	12712.50	11729.24

EAS : Funds Released; as no Statewise allocations are made under EAS.

Aluminium Plant

2317. DR. KRUPA SINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of workers rendered jobless due to the closure of the Aluminium plant at Hirakund, Orissa;

(b) the steps taken to clear their dues and to provide them suitable alternative job; and

(c) the efforts made to revive the said Aluminium plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI M.P. VEERENDRA KUMAR) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Emigration Check

2318. SHRI CHURCHILL ALEMAO : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of persons from Goa work in foreign countries and the poor among them are required to get "Emigration Check Not Required";

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to abolish procedure altogether?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

SC/ST Cell

2319. SHRI MRUTYUNJAYA NAYAK : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether SC/ST Cell in his Ministry was abolished;

(b) whether due to non-functioning of SC/ST Cell, the service interest of employees belonging to SCs/STs have not been protected; and

(c) the action Government propose to take to protect the interest of SC/ST employees in his Ministry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI):

(a) No Sir, an SC/ST Cell is operating in the Ministry.

(b) Question does not arise. The interests of employees belonging to the SC/ST are protected as per the extant rules and guidelines on the subject.

(c) All measures are taken to protect and safeguard the interests of employees belonging to the SC/ST categories through various channels including the Liaison Officer and the Staff Grievance Officer. The employees belonging to SC/ST categories have free access to raise their grievances at the highest level in the Ministry and it is ensured that suitable action is taken to redress their grievances.

US Assistance to Pakistan

2320. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether United States has decided to amend the US Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to relax the existing restrictions on US military and economic assistance to Pakistan;

(b) if so, its impact on India's security; and

(c) the reaction of Indian Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI):

(a) The US Senate has passed an amendment to the US Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 lifting some restrictions on US military and economic assistance to Pakistan which had been in place on account of Pakistan's externally assisted nuclear weapons programme. The amendment, if enacted into law after due process, would allow programmes relating to military training of Pakistani defence service officers and the extension of overseas Private Investment Credit (OPIC) and EXIM Bank guarantees to US corporations engaged in projects in Pakistan.

(b) and (c) Government have expressed concern at this development as an encouragement to Pakistan's nuclear and missile programmes. The amendment has been passed in the wake of reports of Pakistan having tested a medium-range missile and establishing a missile facility with Chinese assistance. These developments have serious implications for India's security. Government have noted that these same provisions were contained in the 1995 Brown Amendment but had not been implemented

at that time because of supply of ring magnets by China to Pakistan's nuclear enrichment facility. Government have conveyed India's concern at these developments to the US authorities. Government remain committed to take appropriate steps to safeguard India's security.

Cooperation in Nuclear Technology

2321. SHRI PRITHVIRAJ D. CHAVAN : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission has signed a nuclear technology cooperation agreement with the Governments of Malaysia and Philippines recently;

(b) if so, whether the agreement has any security implications for India; and

(c) if so, the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA) : (a) Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 8th March, 1997 with the Philippine Nuclear Research Institute on cooperation in the field of peaceful uses of atomic energy. As per available information, there is no agreement between Pakistan and Malaysia on cooperation in nuclear technology.

(b) and (c) Government are carefully and continuously assessing all issues relating to Pakistan's nuclear programme and its implications for the national security. Government are committed to taking all necessary steps to safeguard national interest and security, in accordance with our own threat perceptions.

[Translation]

Assistance for Development of Hill Areas

2322. SHRI BUDHSEN PATEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central assistance is made available to some States for the development of hilly areas and if so the Criteria adopted for the same;

(b) whether the Technical Committee of the working group constituted by the Planning Commission during Seventh Plan had identified some areas of Madhya Pradesh as hilly areas;

(c) if so, whether the Union Government have made provision for additional Central assistance for the development of hilly areas of Madhya Pradesh during the Ninth Plan; and